

REMARKS

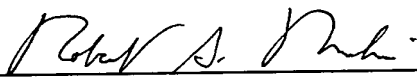
By the present Preliminary Amendment, all multiple dependency has been eliminated from the original claims and new dependent claims 26-42 have been added to encompass certain aspects of the invention within the original multiple dependent claims. It is to be understood that the revisions to the claims are solely for formalistic purposes and not with regard to patentability and that applicants reserve the right to pursue claims directed to other aspects of the invention encompassed by the original multiple dependent claims or described in the specification.

Entry of the instant Preliminary Amendment and favorable consideration on the merits are respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner have any questions concerning the subject application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: February 28, 2002

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Attachment to Preliminary Amendment dated February 28, 2002

Marked-up claims 3-8, 12-16 and 20-25

3. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 [or 2], wherein the solid catalyst is mainly composed of an iron compound, a potassium compound and a magnesium compound.

4. (Amended) The method according to [any one of claims 1 to 3] claim 1, characterized in that the solid catalyst comprises at least one compound selected from the group consisting of alkali metal compounds, alkaline earth metal compounds, rare earth metal compounds, molybdenum compounds, zirconium compounds, zinc compounds, manganese compounds and copper compounds.

5. (Amended) The method according to [any one of claims 1 to 4] claim 1, wherein the temperature of the dehydrogenation reaction is between 480 and 650 °C.

6. (Amended) The method according to [any one of claims 1 to 5] claim 1, wherein the feed amount of the steam which is fed together with the raw material triisopropyl benzene is between 5 and 80 times in weight ratio as large as the feed amount of the triisopropyl benzene, in the dehydrogenation reaction.

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7. (Amended) The method according to [any one of claims 1 to 6] claim 1, wherein the feed amount of the triisopropyl benzene is between 0.01 and 1.4 on LHSV.

8. (Amended) The method according to [any one of claims 1 to 6] claim 1, wherein the feed amount of the triisopropyl benzene is between 0.01 and 1.0 on LHSV.

12. (Amended) The method according to [any one of claims 9 to 11] claim 9, wherein the feed amount of the triisopropyl benzene is between 0.01 and 1.4 in liquid hourly space velocity LHSV.

13. (Amended) The method according to [any one of claims 9 to 11] claim 9, wherein the feed amount of the triisopropyl benzene is between 0.01 and 1.0 in liquid hourly space velocity LHSV.

14. (Amended) The method according to [any one of claims 9 to 13] claim 9, wherein the solid catalyst is mainly composed of an iron compound, a potassium compound and a magnesium compound.

15. (Amended) The method according to [any one of claims 9 to 14] claim 9, wherein triisopropyl benzene is 1,3,5-triisopropyl benzene.

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16. (Amended) The method according to [any one of claims 9 to 15] claim 9, characterized in that the solid catalyst comprises at least one compound selected from the group consisting of alkali metal compounds, alkaline earth metal compounds, rare earth metal compounds, molybdenum compounds, zirconium compounds, zinc compounds, manganese compounds and copper compounds.

20. (Amended) The method according to [any one of claims 17 to 19] claim 17, wherein the feed amount of the diisopropyl benzene is between 0.01 and 1.4 in liquid hourly space velocity LHSV.

21. (Amended) The method according to [any one of claims 17 to 19] claim 17, wherein the feed amount of the diisopropyl benzene is between 0.1 and 1.0 in liquid hourly space velocity LHSV.

22. (Amended) The method according to [any one of claims 17 to 21] claim 17, wherein the solid catalyst is mainly composed of an iron compound, a potassium compound and a magnesium compound.

23. (Amended) The method according to [any one of claims 17 to 22] claim 17, wherein diisopropyl benzene is meta-diisopropyl benzene, and isopropenyl cumene and diisopropenyl benzene are meta-isopropenyl cumene and meta-diisopropenyl benzene, respectively.

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24. (Amended) The method according to [any one of claims 17 to 22] claim 17, wherein diisopropyl benzene is para-diisopropyl benzene, and isopropenyl cumene and diisopropenyl benzene are para-isopropenyl cumene and para-diisopropenyl benzene, respectively.

25. (Amended) The method according to [any one of claims 17 to 24] claim 17, characterized in that the solid catalyst comprises at least one compound selected from the group consisting of alkali metal compounds, alkaline earth metal compounds, rare earth metal compounds, molybdenum compounds, zirconium compounds, zinc compounds, manganese compounds and copper compounds.

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